

February 28, 2014

Dear Senator Meyer, Rep. Gentile, and Members of the CGA Environment Committee:

Due to work commitments, I am not able to attend the public hearing on fracking waste tomorrow, thus

I submit my statement as a native resident of Connecticut to be included in the hearing process.

I urge you to support SB 237: An Act Prohibiting the Storage or Disposal of Fracking Waste in Connecticut.

I am opposed to any fracking waste being disposed of and treated in Connecticut. There are enough environmental issues for us to work with and resolve without allowing this practice.

Highly dangerous fracking waste, consisting of many unknown materials and chemicals and those that are known, well-proven carcinogens, is fraught with environmental and public health hazards, and has no place in a state that is so densely populated as Connecticut.

For our state with its serious economic struggles, allowing fracking waste here can also be an enormous economic burden from potential costs involved in clean up and remediation of spills, inadequate storage of highly dangerous and questionable materials, and health care costs that would surely ensue.

Due to regulatory loopholes and poor oversight, the practice of fracking has exploded and gone amok, and needs to be reined in with better oversight, stricter permitting parameters, and more transparency of what materials and chemicals are used in the process. To be honest, I'm not confident that our state has the financial and expert staffing capabilities to ensure proper handling and storage of fracking waste, and protection of our environment and public safety.

Fracking is not the holy grail nor magic bullet answer to our energy resource problems.

Rather, it's more of a Pandora's Box that would be best left closed!

I urge you to be wise leaders in preserving and protecting our environment and health by supporting SB 237.

Respectfully,

Meredith Sampson
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